

Appln. No. 09/719,770
Amd. dated December 9, 2003
Reply to Office Action of July 11, 2003

REMARKS

The Office Action and the cited and applied references have been carefully reviewed. No claim is allowed. Claims 1 and 17-30 presently appear in this application and define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

Applicant affirms the provisional election to prosecute the invention of Group A, presently comprising claims 1 and 17-30 with the elected species being monodansyl cadaverine.

Claims 1-3 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferguson (WO 98/04245) in view of Chen (WO 92/13530). This rejection is believed to be obviated by the amendment to the claims because the examiner indicated under "Allowable Subject Matter" that claims drawn to specific active agents of claim 8 with the specific diseases set forth in claim 3 would be favorably considered.

As presently amended, claim 1 incorporates the specific agents of claim 8 with the specific diseases set forth in claim 3. New dependent claims 17-30 are directed to specific individual agents or specific diseases. Accordingly, claims 1

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and 17-30 are now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and early allowance are earnestly urged.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a cursive 'Y' and 'U'.

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